

Serial Number: 10/001,709

Group Art Unit: 2826

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please add the new sheet of drawings with a new Figure 3 which is submitted with this paper. The new sheet of drawings does not add any new matter.

REMARKS

By the present amendment, a new sheet of drawings has been added with new Figure 3, and the specification has been amended accordingly to introduce that Figure 3 is a schematic view of a polarizer 3 comprising a first portion 1 and a second portion 2 in accordance with the present invention. It is submitted that the amendments do not add any new matter.

Claims 1-34 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 13-15 are the only independent claims.

In the Office Action, the drawings are objected to as not showing the features of the claimed structure.

The drawings have been amended to add a new Figure 3 with a schematic view of a polarizer comprising first and second portions in accordance with the present invention. Accordingly, it is submitted that the objection should be withdrawn.

Next, in the Office Action, claims 1, 8, and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by US2002/0180678 to Taira et al. ("Taira"), claims 13 and 22 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Taira, and claims 2-7, 9-12, 16-18, 21, 23, and 28-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Taira in view of US 6,706,339 to Miyatake et al. ("Miyatake").

The rejections are respectfully traversed. Taira describes transmittance (for example, on Fig. 5B for the colored polarizers 107, 108 of Taira), but there is absolutely no indication in Taira regarding polarization degree. Indeed, the only occurrences of the word "degree" in Taira concern values of geometric angles.

Further, the transmittance curves of Fig. 5B of Taira do not give any indication regarding

the polarization degree, let alone the polarization degree in the wavelength ranges as defined in the present invention. It is submitted that there is no necessary connection between transmittance and polarization degree generally, and further, the teachings of Taira could not have taught or suggested any particular relationship or profile regarding the polarization degree, since Taira is completely silent regarding polarization degree, as noted above.

In addition, Taira concerns a group of three colored polarizers for blue, green, red, in which two of these colored polarizers could not have the properties of the first and second portions as recited in the present claims, so that Taira in fact teaches away from the present invention.

Further, Miyatake fail to remedy these deficiencies of Taira. Therefore, the present claims are not obvious over the cited references taken alone or in any combination.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the rejection should be withdrawn.

In conclusion, the invention as presently claimed is patentable. It is believed that the claims are in allowable condition and a notice to that effect is earnestly requested.

In the event there is, in the Examiner's opinion, any outstanding issue and such issue may be resolved by means of a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

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In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of the response period. Please charge the fee for such extension and any other fees which may be required to our Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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